

2023 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program Grant

The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance's FY 2023 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program Grant funds law enforcement and behavioral health cross-system collaborations to improve public health, safety and outcomes for people experiencing mental health disorders and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. The "Eastern Jackson County Co-Responder Program 3.0 – Model for Growth (CoRV3.0)" is a multidisciplinary collaboration among the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), two certified community behavioral health clinics, and five police departments in Jackson County, Missouri was awarded this grant in October of 2023. The grant includes funding for ReDiscover to partially fund six co-responder positions, including two within the Lee's Summit Police Department. Grant funds will cover only 0.20 FTE of each position.

The goal of this grant is to build upon years of collaboration among the partners to help connect more Jackson County residents with services and supports and reduce their likelihood for future contact with law enforcement. Also, without any grant funding, the Co-Responder program would be in jeopardy of being discontinued.

FAQ –

1. Who are the Stakeholders?

5 Law Enforcement Agencies: Blue Springs Police Department, Independence Police Department, Grandview Police Department, Lee's Summit Police Department and Raytown Police Department.

2 Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics: Burrell Behavioral Health and ReDiscover.

1 Project Administration Agency: Mid-America Regional Council (MARC)

2. What is the Total Award from the U.S. Department of Justice?

The total federal award is \$550,000.

3. Is there a matching contribution amount?

The project includes \$219,818 of in-kind local match from the partners for a total project budget of \$769,818 (federal 71.45%/local 29.55%).

4. How many Co-Responders are covered by the grant?

The grant will cover 20% of the FTE for 11 Co-Responders. Two (2) of those Co-Responders are utilized by Lee's Summit.

5. What is ReDiscover's financial contribution? How much of the grant were they awarded?

ReDiscover will be a subrecipient for \$268,841 of federal grant funds with a local match commitment of \$145,614. The local match commitment includes the in-kind value of office space and supporting supplies, office furniture, etc. for the co-responders within the assigned police departments.

6. What is the City of Lee's Summit's financial obligation?

Nothing. ReDiscover is covering the in-kind commitment.

7. What is the timeframe of the Grant (Start, Benchmarks and End)?

The award period started on October 1, 2023. The grant includes a six-month planning period before implementation funds can be expended. This is a three-year award, and the project period ends on September 30, 2026. The partners must submit semi-annual financial and performance reports to the Department of Justice as of June 30 and December 31 each year, and final reports are due at the end of the project period.

8. What is the City of Lee's Summit's responsibilities with this grant? Why is the City signing an MOU?

By signing the MOU, the City of Lee's Summit agrees to participate in monthly planning and coordination meetings to complete grant deliverables. The city will assist in compiling and reporting performance data regarding co-responder engagement in police calls for service to meet federal grant reporting requirements. The city will provide appropriate office space and day-to-day support for the co-responders assigned to the Lee's Summit Police Department.

9. What happens to our Co-Responders if we no longer have grant funding?

Though ReDiscover is dedicated to providing quality crisis services to citizens and support the Co-Responder program, they are unable to collect any Medicare or money for any crisis services. Once the grant funding runs out, the Co-Responder Program will be in jeopardy of being discontinued unless an alternate source of funding can be located – ie. City Contract, Mental Health Fund, etc.